



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Hampton sees street flooding; higher tides and winds in the forecast

More than three dozen streets flooded in Hampton on Sunday morning as tides crested about 6 feet above mean low water. Expectations are that Sunday's evening high tide will be higher, nearly 6.5 feet above mean low, and Monday morning's tides could be peak 7 feet or more above mean low.

Tonight's high tide occurs about 9 p.m. These areas will almost certainly flood again. With higher tides and continuing steady rain, there is a likelihood of flooding beyond these areas. The low tides are well above normal levels as well, with Sunday afternoon's level at 4.07 feet above mean low at 3 p.m.

Also, Hampton has seen close to 2 inches of rain so far, according to the National Weather Service. Those totals are expected to reach 5-7 inches by Tuesday. Winds varied between 18 mph and 32 mph during the day on Sunday but are expected to increase to 35 mph to 45 mph, with gusts 50-60 mph on Monday.

Flooded areas included:

- Riverdale (Charlton Drive, Wheatland Drive, Tide Mill Lane)
- Wythe (around Indian Creek – Powhatan Parkway-Chesapeake Avenue, Harbor Drive, Chincoteague Dr., Pochin Place, Pocahontas Place and O'Canoe; also Wythe Parkway; and Victoria Boulevard by the city line)
- Fox Hill-Grandview (Bonita Drive, Beach Road, Grandview Drive, Grundland Drive; Old Buckroe & Fox Hill roads, Dandy Point Road at Beach, Harris Creek Road)
- Phoebus (Hope Street, Mellen Street, Willard Avenue, Virginia Avenue)
- Pasture Point-East Hampton (Pembroke Avenue, River Street, Myrtle Street, Holly Street, Marshall Street)
- Fort Monroe (McNair Avenue)
- Buckroe (First Street, Resort Boulevard, 5th Street, Tappan Avenue, Seaboard Avenue)
- Coliseum Central (Armistead Avenue by the Home Depot to Pine Chapel Road)
- Merrimac Shores (Chesapeake Avenue and Catesby Jones Avenue)
- Downtown (Lincoln Street, Washington Street; Bridge Street, Syms Street)
- Near NASA (Wythe Creek at Carys Chapel Road)
- Willow Oaks (Harris Creek Road)

Residents of these and other low-lying areas are urged to evacuate to friends or family on higher ground. People should not attempt to drive through these areas, especially during high tides (roughly, 9 a.m. and p.m.) Drivers are also reminded that power outages may affect traffic signals. If a traffic signal is not operative, a 4-way stop is created. All drivers should use caution.

Twenty-nine people were in the city's shelter at the Phenix School, 1061 Big Bethel Road, which opened Saturday evening. The shelter at Bethel High School, 1067 Big Bethel Road, is also open for those with pets. Anyone who goes to a shelter should bring any medications or special needs equipment; air mattresses, blankets and pillows; diapers, toys, games and

books for children; food; and water (recommended 1 gallon per person per day). Pet owners should bring a cage or crate, food and water, shot records and medications.

A number of homeless citizens were being cared for Saturday by the Night's Welcome winter shelter program. They will continue to be cared for through the day and evening Sunday by the HELP program.

Closings for Monday include:

- Hampton City Schools
- No trash or recycling pickup (routes will be collected Wednesday instead)
- Thomas Nelson Community College
- Hampton University
- Langley Air Force Base said access to the base will be limited to mission essential personnel
- Hampton libraries, community centers and parks
- Hampton courts are also closed.
- For Hampton City employees, a liberal leave policy is in effect for non-essential personnel. Please check with your supervisor to see if you are needed for emergency or recovery operations.

City emergency workers, including police, fire and public works employees, remain on extended shifts, dealing with any emergencies that developed, cleaning clogged drains and posting signs on flooded streets.

Dominion Virginia Power, which has already said that power outages are expected, said that because the storm will build in intensity over time, the company's linemen and other workers will be aided by utility workers from other states. Dominion also said that strong winds may make working conditions too risky for bucket trucks and line crews to begin working immediately. As of midday Sunday, Hampton had no outages.

The company reminds its customers to call toll free 1-866-DOM-HELP (1-866-366-4357) about any outages or downed lines. Customers may also report an outage through the company's mobile website at www.dom.com by typing in the phone number or account number on record with the company and the last four digits of their Social Security number, PIN or federal tax ID number.

Residents can get more Hampton-specific information by:

- visiting facebook.com/HamptonVA or twitter.com/cityofhampton
- calling 311 (727-8311 from outside Hampton or from a cell phone)
- signing up for free email updates at hampton.gov/enews
- listening to the city's emergency updates on WHOV, 88.1 FM, Hampton University's radio station
- visiting hampton.gov frequently for updates

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